

10/736,993
DOCKET NO. P21-163401M/YS

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REMARKS

Applicants submit a Petition and Fee for a One-Month Extension of Time.

Claims 1, 3-4, 7-9, and 12-17 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

Claims 1, 3, 7-8, and 12-14 are amended to more clearly define the invention and claims 2, 5-6, 10-11, and 18-19 are canceled. Claims 1, 7, and 12-14 are independent.

These amendments are made only to more particularly point out the invention for the Examiner and not for narrowing the scope of the claims or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability.

Applicants also note that, notwithstanding any claim amendments herein or later during prosecution, Applicants' intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 2-3 and 7-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This Amendment amends claim 1 to incorporate the features of allowable claim 2, cancels claim 2, rewrites claims 7, and 12-14 into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, amends claim 3 to depend from amended claim 1, amends claim 8 to depend from allowable claim 1, and cancels claims 5-6 and 10-11.

In summary, this Amendment amends the claims to place claims 1, 3-4, 7-9, and 12-17 into condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-4, 7-9, and 12-17, all the claims presently pending in the Application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest

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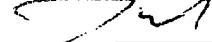
possible time.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

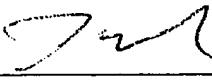
Date: 10/21/05


James E. Howard
Registration No. 39,715

MCGINN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
LAW GROUP, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, Virginia 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that I am filing this Amendment After Final Rejection Under 37 CFR §1.116 by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark Office to Examiner Gary Wayne Estremsky, Group Art Unit 3676 at fax number (571) 273-8300 this 20th day of October, 2005.


James E. Howard, Esq.
Registration No. 39,715